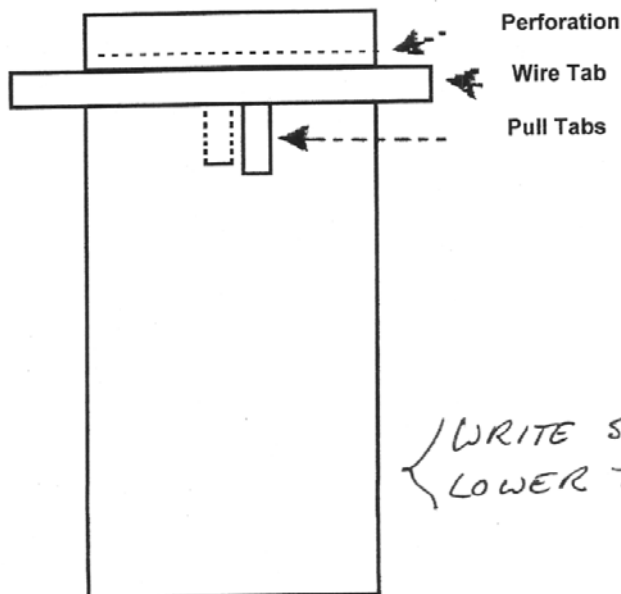


## Collecting Water Samples In Whirl-Pak Bags

- 1) Write your site number on the Whirl-Pak bag while it is still dry.
- 2) Just prior to sampling, tear off the top of the bag along the perforation above the wire tab. Avoid touching the inside of the bag! If you accidentally touch the inside of the bag, use another one!
- 3) **Wading:** Try to disturb as little bottom sediment as possible. Do not collect water that contains sediment. Stand facing upstream. To sample the water, hold two pull tabs in each hand and lower the bag into water on your upstream side with the opening facing upstream. Open the bag mid-way between the surface (12 deep maximum) and the bottom by pulling the white pull tabs. The bag should begin to fill with water. You may need to "scoop" water into the bag by pushing it upstream and away from you. Fill the bag no more than 3/4 full! If you are collecting from a boat, collect the water sample on the upstream side of the boat.
- 4) Bring the bag out of water. Pour off excess water. Pull on the wire tabs to close the bag. Continue holding the wire tabs and flip the bag over at least 4-5 times quickly to seal the bag. Don't squeeze the air out of the top. Fold the ends of the wire tabs together at the top of the bag, being careful not to puncture the bag. Twist them together forming a loop. Label the bag, with the site number, date, and time and put the sample on ice in a cooler.
- 5) Write the site# on the appropriate field sheet. **This is Important! It's the only way we know which bottle goes with which site.**
- 6) Place the sample in the cooler and take it to the drop off point as quickly as possible.  
*Remember to label the bag with Site date, and time!*

TUCK THE ENDS OF THE WIRE-TIE IN SO THEY WON'T PUNCTURE ANOTHER BAG AT THE LAB.

"Whirl-Pak" Bag



WRITE SITE# ON LOWER THIRD OF BAG